









## THE SECRET SENATE.

THE MOCK MYSTERY OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSIONS.

A Growing Disposition to Their Restriction—Senator Edmunds' Speech Against the Measure—Twenty-Two Members of the Senate to Enter the Cabinet—Other News.

WASHINGTON, January 29.—[Special.]—

There has been much dissatisfaction expressed by members of the lower house and the public in Washington at the senate's persistent maintenance of its rules as to secret sessions.

The pending treaties have occupied a great part of the time of the senate this session.

They affect the interest of the whole people, and there can be no further discussion of them in the senate than there is in the press and in the lobbies every day. Besides, the position of every senator and the exact views he expresses are known outside an hour after he speaks in executive session.

To insist that this mock dignity and this pretense to solemn secrecy is bringing the senate into severe criticism for its assuming airs of superiority over the lower, but really more potent branch of congress, is everybody admits is more reasonable than to have executive sessions when nominations are being considered, for the discussions then are of a personal character. But even these sessions have long been a huge joke. The newspapers never fail to have all that transpires. If there is a fierce debate a lively picture within the locked and guarded doors it is a masterpiece of caricature that it will be in print before the statesmen get their breakfast next morning.

Indeed a senator once told me that he had noticed that reports of his speeches in executive sessions were more exact than those of open sessions. I told him that was because the newspapers had a superior set of reporters to hear what transpired in executive sessions. He seemed to think that any senator would tell anything about a secret session.

If the question of restricting the executive sessions to nominations were put a good number of senators would vote in the affirmative. Some of them have made efforts already among their colleagues to break down this barrier which protects nothing and subjects the senate to that invidious feeling in a free government toward every public proceeding that savors of mystery.

MOCK SECRET SESSIONS.

The most notable speeches of the session have been made by Senator Edmunds in favor of the restriction of the executive sessions.

He has been constantly referred to in Washington as a man who could go into the cabinet if he chose to. That he deserves this compliment can hardly be doubted by those who know the respect for his ability and the esteem of his character held by the public men of both parties. No man could have been preferred to the presidency with as large and spontaneous an endorsement from the north, certainly no southern man could have been backed by so many supporters in the south.

A divided political loyalty lay at his feet and he refused to pick it up. It would not suit him and he felt that his place was in the senate. He has been working zealously for his friend congressman H. B. Money of Mississippi, who is among the prominent aspirants to the postmaster generalship.

Mr. Lamar has suffered severely from the winter with a cold of a painful type. His advocacy of Mr. Money's claims is an instance of his enthusiasm whenever a friend's interests are at stake. He is not an exclusive man, but one of our new associates. No senator has more pleasant relations with all the other senators, but his intimate companions are few. Senators Johnson, Hampton and Colquhoun are, perhaps, his nearest friends.

A PROPOSED REFORM.

The devotion of the greater part of three days of this session in both houses of congress to memorial exercises and the small attendance of members and spectators when these exercises were being delivered have elicited frequent expressions of the opinion that it would be well to abolish this custom. Unless the deceased member has been eminent in congress the exercises in memorial honor of him are regarded as a sort of family gathering. Sometimes hardly a member is to be seen except the four or five who are to read eulogies and the galleries are almost as bare as the floors. The general run of memorial eulogies in congress is not calculated to console the friends of the deceased or to ornament the pages of the Record. It is a travesty on rhetorical expression and the attributes of indiscriminate praise are the staple components of these eulogies. The speeches are read or declaimed at length and then are printed in the Record. Afterwards they are reprinted in neat bound volumes, no kind of paper, and usually with a steel engraving of the subject, for free distribution through the members.

The change proposed is that the death of a member shall be announced, and the close of a day's session with appropriate resolutions, which the house may adopt, and then adjourn in honor of the dead. General leave may be granted to all who wish to come to the funeral on the life and character of the deceased and the memorial volumes can be printed as they are under the existing rule. It is thought that the plan will be fully worthy a mark of respect as the lonesome exercises which are now in order, and would save much valuable time.

P. H. R.

An Alleged Faith Cure.

UTICA, N. Y., January 29.—A faith cure is reported in Morris, Otsego county, and viewed for its remarkable people. For twelve years Alice, daughter of George Benjamin, has been an invalid on account of spinal injury received by being thrown from a wagon. Most of the time she has been confined to her bed. Nothing that physicians could do for her helped her. Six weeks ago it was thought she could not live long. On January 16, she began to pray for restoration to health. A week later she walked to a neighbor's house, several rods distant, ate a hearty dinner and walked home. The same evening she rode a mile and a half, took part in a church meeting, and was an astonished friend that she was perfectly well. She has since attended daily to household duties, and to all inquiries answers that her recovery is due to God's goodness. She is about thirty years old.

Chinamen in the Prize Ring.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 29.—The first recorded prize fight between Chinamen has taken place in this city. Ah Fat and Sing were the prize fighters. The fight was for \$50, Queensberry rules. The whole thing was a farce. The men were not trained, and did not know how to aim a blow. Before the end of the first round they were so tired that they could hardly come to time. They stood by for their rounds, when the audience called out, "Make it draw," and it was so declared.

The Nail Manufacturers.

PHILADELPHIA, January 29.—A large meeting of the nail manufacturers was held here to-day, representatives being present from Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and New England. The price was advanced to 25 cents a hundred, and about eight per cent. It was said that the demand has largely increased, and that the mills will shortly start up with full working force.

## A MACON MARRIAGE.

The Nuptials of Miss Kittie Jewett and Mr. H. W. Williams.

MACON, January 29.—[Special.]—First street Methodist church was the scene, to-night, of one of the happiest marriages ever witnessed in Macon. It was the uniting in holy wedlock of Mr. Howard J. Williams and Miss Kittie Jewett.

The occasion was one of especial brightness, the church being crowded.

Extensive preparations had been made, and the event was eagerly watched for.

The church was tastefully decorated, the altar being almost covered with bright flowers, ferns and festoons. In the rear, over the pulpit, was a handsome banner screen of white satin suspended by a lyre of gold. Trailing from the center was a large bow of gold. Trailing from the center was a large bow of gold. Trailing from the center was a large bow of gold.

The center of the altar was formed a double arch composed of evergreens and bright flowers, from the center of which suspended the letters "J. W." wrought in bright flowers. Under this the happy young pair stood.

Promptly at eight o'clock Professor V. Cranda performed a selection prepared for the occasion, and every eye was turned to the entrance.

The first to enter were the bridesmaids, Mr. George Payne, Mr. R. D. Clancy, Dr. H. H. Hoffer, Mr. Harry Tindall, who were followed by the attendants. Then came Mr. Felix Camp and Mr. Coby Smith, Robert Collins and George Hugh Willet, and Harry McKay. The gentlemen advanced to the altar and separated the bridesmaids, Misses Emma Burr and Lizzie Mangham, Lila Jewett, of Jeffersonville, Ind., and Rosa Beck Safford, of Safford, Ga. and Misses Emma Burr and Lizzie Mangham.

Following these came Master Dudley Williams, followed by the bride, wearing a beautiful gown of white satin, and a picture of a bride. She carried a large bouquet of flowers, and a large bouquet of flowers.

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## SERIOUSLY BITTEN BY A DOG.

Mr. Moses Lipps, the Contractor, Torn up by a Ferocious Bull Dog.

Moses Lipps, the contractor, came near meeting a violent death last night at his home on Calhoun street.

Mr. Lipps owns a large bull dog, a ferocious brute, whose terrible temper is well known in the neighborhood in which Mr. Lipps resides.

Mr. Lipps has been in the habit of keeping the dog securely chained to a post, the day and releasing him at dark. Mr. Lipps alone could reach the dog, all others about the place being afraid to approach his kennel. Last night about dark Mr. Lipps approached the dog's kennel to release him, but the instant he came in reach of the dog the dog sprang at Mr. Lipps' throat and bore him to the earth.

Mr. Lipps instantly realized that he was in a very critical position and began fighting the dog. The contest was a terrible one. The dog is exceedingly large and strong, and it was only a piece of luck that enabled Mr. Lipps to escape with his life. When he finally tore himself from the dog he found that his arms, face, and hands had been terribly lacerated. Dr. Pincney was sent for and found Mr. Lipps suffering severely. He did what he could to allay the pain. Mr. Lipps sent a messenger to police headquarters for a patrolman stating that he wanted the dog killed. Patrolman Sheridan responded. He was armed with a shotgun, and emptied both barrels into the dog's body, but without accomplishing death. After the second shot the dog took his chain and ran under the house where he was at last located. Mr. Lipps was quite severely injured, and will have a hard time of it. The dog is supposed to be mad, as he has always been submissive to Mr. Lipps.

## A DISAPPOINTED BRIDE.

Friends Gather at the Church, but the Bridegroom Hurriedly Leaves Town.

DAYTON, Ohio, January 29.—A most peculiar affair has just occurred here. A commercial drummer, named Joseph E. Taylor, was to be married to a young lady named Miss Steffels. All arrangements were completed for a splendid wedding, which was to have occurred at Holy Trinity church. The bride was dressed in a large and beautiful gown, and the ceremony was to be performed by the Rev. J. O. Clark. As the party retired from the church Professor Cranda presented the wedding march in loud strains.

AT THE RESIDENCE.

The party then retired to the home of the bride where a reception was tendered. The residence was beautifully decorated and illuminated, and was a scene of gaiety. A sumptuous banquet was spread after which the evening was spent in the most enjoyable manner. During the evening a pleasant surprise was given the party assembled. At an announcement a young lady named Miss Steffels, who was the bride, stepped forward and announced that she was not the bride, but a friend of the bride. The party was much surprised, and the bridegroom hurriedly left town. The party then retired to the home of the bride where a reception was tendered. The residence was beautifully decorated and illuminated, and was a scene of gaiety. A sumptuous banquet was spread after which the evening was spent in the most enjoyable manner. During the evening a pleasant surprise was given the party assembled. At an announcement a young lady named Miss Steffels, who was the bride, stepped forward and announced that she was not the bride, but a friend of the bride. The party was much surprised, and the bridegroom hurriedly left town. The party then retired to the home of the bride where a reception was tendered. The residence was beautifully decorated and illuminated, and was a scene of gaiety. A sumptuous banquet was spread after which the evening was spent in the most enjoyable manner. During the evening a pleasant surprise was given the party assembled. At an announcement a young lady named Miss Steffels, who was the bride, stepped forward and announced that she was not the bride, but a friend of the bride. The party was much surprised, and the bridegroom hurriedly left town.

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